

CLAIMS

ASSAY FOR ANTI TRANSGLUTAMINASE ANTIBODIES DETECTION USEFUL IN CELIAC DISEASE DIAGNOSIS

1. An assay to detect IgA or IgG anti-transglutaminase antibodies in liquid samples which comprises:

- a) Immunocomplex formation between antibodies in the samples and the antigen tissue transglutaminase, obtained from natural sources or by recombinant DNA technology. The antigen is conjugated to a colored substance and deposited onto an inert support which allows the release of the conjugated when it comes into contact with a liquid sample.

- b) Reaction of the immunocomplexes described in a) with the same antigen tissue transglutaminase adsorbed onto a reactive zone of a membrane

- The* promoting its deposition on this zone. *no correlation step: comparison*
2. ~~An~~ assay [to detect IgA or IgG anti-transglutaminase antibodies] according to claim 1, *sand*, wherein the adsorbed antigen is fixed onto a nitrocellulose or nylon membrane with 5 to 10 μ m pore size that allows a lateral flow of reactants.

- The*
3. ~~An~~ assay [to detect IgA or IgG anti-transglutaminase antibodies] according to claim 1, wherein the colored substance conjugated to the antigen is colloidal gold or colored latex particles.

- The*
4. ~~An~~ assay [to detect IgA or IgG anti-transglutaminase antibodies] according to claim 1, wherein the excess of the conjugated antigen reacts with a reagent adsorbed onto another zone of the same membrane resulting in a second colored signal that can be used to check the performance of the assay.

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5. Procedure according to claim 1 wherein the assay detects IgA or IgG anti-transglutaminase antibodies in samples of human serum, plasma, or blood in just one-step.